

**38287 to 38290.**

From Darjiling, India. Presented by Mr. G. H. Cave, curator, Lloyd Botanic Garden, through Mr. Wilson Popenoe of the Bureau of Plant Industry. Seeds of Sikkim plants received May 14, 1914.

**38287.** *BETULA UTILIS* D. Don. Betulaceæ.

**Birch.**

*Distribution.*—A large tree found at an altitude of 7,000 to 14,000 feet on the temperate slopes of the Himalayas from Kashmir to Sikkim in northern India, and eastward through China and Japan.

"A tree 60 feet high, with a creamy white trunk and branches; bark peeling off in papery flakes; young shoots densely covered with gray down, becoming reddish brown. Leaves ovate, rounded at the base, pointed, 2 to 3½ inches long, about two-thirds as wide, rather coarsely and irregularly toothed; upper surface dark green, with scattered down; lower surface pale, downy on the midrib and veins, the latter in 9 to 12 pairs; leafstalk three-fourths of an inch long, downy; fruiting catkins 1½ inches long, one-third of an inch in diameter, cylindrical; scales downy on the margins, the middle one considerably the longer, and rounded at the end. Native of the Himalayas; introduced by Sir Joseph Hooker in 1849; perhaps before, certainly several times since, from which, judging by its rarity, it would seem that it is not very hardy. A tree over 30 feet high, planted by the late Mr. Chambers at Grayswood in 1882, is the best I know. Young plants have been raised at Kew from its seed, but have not yet had to withstand hard frost. In a letter Mr. Chambers remarked that the bark of his tree 'even to the branches is creamy white, the young twigs of an orange chocolate, very pretty in winter.' Some trees also exist in Trinity College Botanic Gardens, Dublin." (*W. J. Bean, Trees and Shrubs Hardy in the British Isles, vol. 1, p. 263.*)

**38288 and 38289.** *MICHELIA* spp. Magnoliaceæ.

**38288.** *MICHELIA CATHCARTII* Hook. f. and Thoms.

*Distribution.*—A tall tree with white flowers, found on the temperate slopes of the Himalayas at an altitude of 5,000 to 6,000 feet in Sikkim, northern India.

**38289.** *MICHELIA LANUGINOSA* Wallich.

*Distribution.*—A large bush or tree, with large white flowers, often 4 inches in diameter, found on the temperate slopes of the Himalayas at an altitude of 5,000 to 7,000 feet, from Nepal to Bhutan in northern India.

**38290.** *ALNUS NEPALENSIS* D. Don. Betulaceæ.

**Alder.**

**38291 and 38292.**

From Pago Pago, American Samoa. Presented by Commander C. D. Stearns, Governor of American Samoa. Received May 25, 1914. Quoted notes by Commander Stearns.

**38291.** *PIPER METHYSTICUM* Forster. Piperaceæ.

**Ava (kava).**

"These cuttings are of the best variety grown in the island, and in planting them care should be taken to place the stalk at an angle of about 30° from the perpendicular, as it grows far more quickly in this position. Most of the ava raised in American Samoa is used as a beverage. The product of the ava plant is ready for use after about 4 to 6 years' growth."